Serial No. 09/683,254 MAR 1 7 20

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Director of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

on March 11, 2003 (Date).

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GROUP 00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: O.S. Dinc et al.

: Group Art Unit: 3677

Serial No.: 09/683,254

: Examiner: W. Miller

Filed: December 5, 2001

: Response to Paper No. 3

For: ACTUATED BRUSH SEALS

## **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Director of Patents and Trademarks United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants appreciate the consideration shown by the Office, as evidenced by the Office Action, mailed on February 24, 2003. In that Office Action, the Examiner required Applicants to elect a single disclosed species from the following groups:

- I. Figures 1-8;
- II. Figures 9-11; and
- III. Figures 12-15.

Applicants hereby elect with traverse the species in Group I, Figures 1-8, for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally

Serial No. 09/683,254

held to be allowable. The claims in the present application that correspond to the elected group include claims 1-22.

Applicants believe they have provided a complete and responsive reply to the Office Action of February 24, 2003. If, however, any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul DiCoaza

Reg. No. 48,418

General Electric Company

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Schenectady, New York 5 March 2003